



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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COMMISSIONER

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Dear Kidney Health Care (KHC) Recipient:

Below is important news about KHC and Medicare Part D premium and drug benefits.

Update How Medicare Part D Premium Payments are Processed:

In 2008, all Stand-Alone Part D Plans are expected to be working with KHC. Beginning on January 1, 2008, **KHC will not reimburse you directly for premium payments.** The Part D plans will bill KHC for your premiums.

Important Reminders about your KHC Premium Benefit Limitations:

- KHC will not pay your premiums or reimburse you if your premium payments are taken from your social security benefit, bank account, or a credit card account. If you want KHC to assist with paying your premiums, you must cancel that automatic deduction and select the "direct bill" option. This will allow your Part D plan to bill KHC.
- KHC will only cover up to \$35 per month, minus any "extra-help" you receive (also called low-income assistance) from Social Security.
- You are responsible for any premium amounts still owed after KHC has made payments.
- **In order to have premium and prescription assistance from KHC, you must be enrolled in a Stand-Alone Plan.** KHC will not coordinate benefits for recipients who have Medicare Advantage Plans, private or group health coverage, or any other third-party plan. If you had private insurance and now are on a Part D plan, please call us to update your account.

KHC Prescription Drug Benefit Limitations:

KHC will pay for up to four (4) prescriptions per month for your Part B and D coverage. The drug must be on the KHC drug list **and** the Medicare Part D plan's drug list. KHC pays second to your Medicare Part D plan for your prescription drugs. If you are a transplant patient, KHC will pay towards your 20% Medicare Part B co-insurance for immunosuppressive drugs.

If you have questions about this letter, please talk to your social worker or call KHC at 1-800-222-3986. You can also e-mail us at kidneyet@dshs.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

Carol Labaj, RN, BSN
Manager, Purchased Health Services Unit